

PATENTS  
Attorney Docket No. NMC-001.01

**REMARKS**

The Examiner advised Applicant that the amendments filed in their October 21, 2004, Reply to Notice of Non-Compliance did not comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c) in that, according to the Examiner, the status of "Withdrawn - currently amended", used with respect to claims 29-31, 37, 47 and 49, is not proper.

Examiner's attention is directed to the last sentence of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(2), which states:


If a withdrawn claim is currently amended, its status in the claim listing may be identified as "withdrawn - currently amended".

Since Applicant has made amendments to some of the withdrawn claims, the status "withdrawn -currently amended" for those claims is proper.

Applicant also notes that, contrary to what the Examiner indicated in the December 30, 2004, Notice of Non-Compliance, claim 43 has the status of "Currently amended" and not "Withdrawn - currently amended".

Respectfully submitted,

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